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IMPROVED ENERGY RETURN SOLE FOR FOOTWEAR

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

04-12-05 *ju*
[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application
Serial No. 09/827,933 filed on April 9, 2001 which is incorporated herein by
reference in its entirety. *now patent no. 6,860,034*

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to an improved sole for footwear and more particularly to a sole which absorbs, stores and returns kinetic energy to a wearer of the footwear during the gait cycle.

Summary of the Related Art

[0003] Recently, considerable efforts have been devoted to develop improved running and other athletic shoes. Currently, there are many different types of running or athletic shoes which purport to provide cushioning from impact and comfort for all phases of activity. Shock absorption has been the primary focus of most of these research efforts. For example, U.S. Pat. No. 4,541,184 (Leighton)